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New Literature

The most important books listed in these columns will receive notice in the book-review pages.

OLD TESTAMENT

BOOKS

BENNETT, W. H. *The Religion of the Post-Exilic Prophets.* [The Literature and Religion of Israel. Edited by J. Hastings, D.D.] Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1907. Imported by Scribners. Pp. xii + 396. \$2 net.

The first volume of a new series of popular handbooks. The period covered in this work extends from Ezekiel to the Maccabean age. The first 130 pages contain a brief résumé of the contents and historical background of the prophetic writings belonging to this period. The remainder of the book discusses the "various doctrines of the exilic and post-exilic prophets." The book is a useful contribution to the popular knowledge of a period concerning which altogether too little is known by the average Bible student.

THOMAS, JOHN M. *The Christian Faith and the Old Testament.* New York: T. Y. Crowell & Co., 1908. Pp. x + 133. \$1 net.

A well-written, popular presentation of the value of the Old Testament in modern life. The author's point of view is scholarly and he is thoroughly in sympathy with modern thinking. To those who doubt whether anything of usefulness is left to the Old Testament as interpreted by the modern scholar, this volume may be warmly commended.

ADAMS, JOHN. *Sermons in Syntax; or Studies in the Hebrew Text. A Book for Preachers and Students.* New York: Scribners, 1908. Pp. xi + 228. \$1.50 net.

In the general wane of interest in the study of Hebrew as seen, e. g., in its rapid disappearance as a required study from our theological curricula, welcome should be accorded to every effort to justify the study of Hebrew to the mind of the average minister. The elements of syntax are clearly presented in this volume. It constitutes therefore a good guide to the student beginning work in this fascinating field. The non-Hebraist even will often obtain here illuminative hints for the treatment of biblical texts.

MORGAN, G. CAMPBELL. *The Analyzed Bible.* Vol. I, Genesis to Esther; Vol. II, Job to Malachi. Chicago: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1907-8. Vol. I, pp. 220. Vol. II, pp. 285. \$1 net per vol.

The author's well-known spirit and method are dominant throughout these volumes. The unity of the various books is assumed. As such, an attempt is made to analyze them into large logical sections. These analyses are always clever, but sometimes at least not sufficiently supported by the text, e. g., Genesis falls into three divisions: I. Generation (chaps. 1, 2); II, Degeneration (chaps. 3-11); III, Regeneration (chaps. 12-50). The volumes will doubtless find wide sale, but can hardly be expected to further an intelligent knowledge of the Scriptures.

MACLAREN, ALEXANDER. *Expositions of Holy Scripture: The Second Book of Kings from chap. xiii and the Books of Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah. The Books of Esther, Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes.* Two volumes. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son, 1908. Pp. 399 + 409.

These volumes form part of the third series of six volumes which have thus far appeared in the progress toward the total of thirty volumes. They are sold only by the series, and at the price of \$7.50 net. They furnish stimulus for the devotional spirit and constitute fitting repositories of the products of the great preacher's homiletic genius. But as aids to the discovery of the meaning of the Biblical message as originally uttered they are of little value. The author cares nothing for historical method, and leaves it wholly out of account. As sermons, however, they can be highly commended to the consideration of all preachers for their simplicity, directness, and force.

EERDMANS, B. D. *Alttestamentliche Studien. I. Die Komposition der Genesis.* Giessen: Töpelmann, 1908. Pp. viii + 95. M. 2.60.

An important work aiming to show the unsatisfactory character of the current view concerning

the sources of the Hexateuch in general and Genesis in particular as laid down by Wellhausen. The method of this attack is thoroughly historical and critical, free from all dogmatic prejudice. In place of the sources posited by Wellhausen and his successors, Eerdmans finds new sources determined along widely different lines from the old. This study demands careful consideration from all Old Testament scholars

LUNDGREN, F. Die Benutzung der Pflanzenwelt in der alttestamentlichen Religion. [Beihefte zur *Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft*, XIV. Giessen: Töpelmann, 1908. Pp. xxiii + 191. M. 5.

This study of the flora of Palestine and its place in the Old Testament religion is organized under four captions: viz., (1) the use of the plant-world as place of cultus, i. e., worship at sacred trees; (2) the use of the plant-world at the place of cultus, i. e., as building materials, decorations, etc.; (3) its use as cultus-materials, i. e., with and in sacrifices, etc.; (4) the plant-world in Old Testament thought, i. e., tree of life, figurative allusions, etc. The study brings together a mass of materials not readily accessible elsewhere.

HAGEN, M. Atlas Biblicus continens duas et viginti tabulas quibus accedit index topographicus in universam geographiam Biblicam. [Cursus Scripturae Sacrae.] Paris: Lethielleux, 1907. Fr. 9.

This atlas by a Jesuit scholar presents 22 excellent maps of the various biblical regions together with 58 pages of geographical index giving the names with a brief statement of from two to ten lines (in Latin) concerning the location and history of each place. It is apparently well adapted to library use in colleges and seminaries.

ARTICLES

TORREY, C. C. The Aramaic Portions of Ezra. *The American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literatures*, April, 1908, pp. 209-81.

A detailed study of the passages from the following points of view: (1) their character as historical sources; (2) the share of the chronicler in their composition; (3) the character of the Aramaic; (4) the significance of the foreign words and the proper names; (5) text and translation. This article must be studied by all interpreters of the history of the period of Ezra and Nehemiah.

BOYLAN, P. New Dates in Oriental History. *The Irish Theological Quarterly*, April, 1908, pp. 186-208.

An intelligent summary of the bearing upon Old Testament history of the facts brought to light in L. W. King's *Chronicles Concerning Early Babylonian Kings*.

The New Elephantine Papyri. *The Church Quarterly Review*, April, 1908, pp. 158-72.

A clear statement (unsigned) of the nature of the recently discovered documents and their bearing upon the history of the period of Ezra and Nehemiah.

ZERBE, A. S. Lost Books and Records Quoted in the Old Testament. *The Reformed Church Review*, April, 1900, pp. 145-79.

Thirty-nine such sources are cited and discussed briefly. The author concludes that the preservation of the Old Testament alone of all the Hebrew writings is "a marvelous proof of its inspired character."

MACMILLAN, KERR D. Marriage among the Early Babylonians and Hebrews. *The Princeton Theological Review*, April, 1908, pp. 211-45.

A comparison of the patriarchal marriage customs with the marriage laws of the Code of Hammurabi, resulting in the conclusion that the two systems were remarkably similar and that therefore the view that Babylon and Israel were brought into mutual relations in early days is correct.

DAVIS, JOHN D. The Future Life in Hebrew Thought during the Pre-Persean Period. *Ibid.*, pp. 246-68.

A survey of the passages in early Old Testament literature which bear upon the question at issue. The author succeeds in finding what he desires, even in very doubtful passages.

MARTI, KARL. Jahwe und seine Auffassung in der ältesten Zeit. *Theologische Studien und Kritiken*, 1908, pp. 321-33.

A discriminating study of the significance of the earliest records of the Hebrew thought about God. The author declares his conviction that the pan-Babylonian scholars have claimed too much for the early Babylonian conception of deity and its influence upon the Hebrew thought. Jehovah was from the beginning "more than a mere demon, more even than a mountain-god from Sinai or a god of the air, of storm and volcano."

NEW TESTAMENT

BOOKS

MORGAN, G. CAMPBELL. The Analyzed Bible. Introduction: Matthew to Revelation. Chicago: F. H. Revell Co., 1908. Pp. 340. \$1.

Untrammelled by critical problems Dr. Morgan handles the task of New Testament introduction with ease and freedom. Few merely historical matters, such as the dates of historical books, are touched, and the main endeavor is to present the central thought of each book, as Dr. Morgan understands it. The analyses and titles are generally striking and rhetorical rather than simply faithful to the works discussed.

MACLAREN, ALEXANDER. Expositions of Holy Scripture. The Acts of the Apostles, chap. 13 to the end, pp. viii + 385; St. John, Vol. I, chaps. 1-8, pp. viii + 384; Vol. II, chaps. 9-14, pp. viii + 402; Vol. III, chaps. 15-21, pp. viii + 401. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son, 1908. Sold in series of six volumes. \$7.50 net.

The imposing and attractive edition of Dr. Maclaren's excellent expository sermons is continued by these four important volumes, which will prove helpful to a better understanding of the task, method, and possibilities of expository preaching.

HOBART, A. S. Our Silent Partner. New York: F. H. Revell Co., 1908. Pp. 160. 75 cents.

Practical religious helpfulness is the aim controlling this setting forth of the Holy Spirit in relation to the Christian life.

ARTICLES

SANDERS, H. A. New Manuscripts of the Bible from Egypt. *American Journal of Archaeology*, January-March, 1908, pp. 49-55. With three plates.

An account of the Freer manuscripts, already briefly described in the BIBLICAL WORLD for February, with facsimiles of a part of each. That of Mark 16:12-17 reveals the new and striking

(Western?) reading, ὁ δὲ ἀπιστήσας κατακρήθεις οὐ σωθήσεται, Mark 16:16, a fresh hint of that manuscript's wealth of new readings.

BRIGGS, C. A. The Virgin Birth of Our Lord. *American Journal of Theology*, April, 1908, pp. 189-210.

Professor Briggs holds that biblical and historic criticism supplies no valid ground for doubting the virgin birth and that no serious philosophical objection can be brought against it, while the abandonment of it inevitably leads to the giving-up of all distinctive Christian doctrine.

SPITTA, FRIEDRICH. Jesu Weigerung sich als "gut" bezeichnen zu lassen. *Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft*, 1908, Heft 1, pp. 12-20.

Preferring Luke's account of the incident of the Rich Inquirer to whom Jesus said: "Why callest thou me good?" to those of Matthew and Mark, Spitta finds in the passage a new instance of the preservation of the oldest tradition in the youngest of the Synoptic Gospels.

EAGAR, ALEX. R. St. Luke's Account of the Last Supper: A Critical Note on the Second Sacrament: II. Internal Criticism. *Expositor*, April, 1908, pp. 343-61.

A critical examination of Luke's account of the Lord's Supper, as compared with Matthew's and Mark's. It is urged that the first cup preceded the feast, and was not eucharistic.

HART, J. H. A. A Plea for the Recognition of the Fourth Gospel as an Historical Authority. *Ibid.*, pp. 361-79.

RUTHERFORD, JOHN. St. Paul's Epistle to the Laodiceans. *Expository Times*, April, 1908, pp. 311-14.

The Epistle to the Laodiceans of Marcion's canon, referred to in Col. 4:16, is with much probability identified with our Ephesians, a circular letter, sent first to Laodicea.

DENNEY, JAMES. The Cup of the Lord and the Cup of Demons. *Expositor*, April, 1908, pp. 289-304.

RELATED SUBJECTS

BOOKS

SCHMIDT, CARL. Der erste Clemens Brief in altkoptische Uebersetzung. Mit Facsimile der Handschrift. Leipzig: J. C. Hinrichs, 1908. (*Texte und Untersuchungen*, XXXII, 1.) Pp. 160.

An Akhmim papyrus of the fourth century, now in the Berlin Museum, supplies a Coptic (Akhmimic) version of the First Epistle of Clement, and promises to make an important contribution to the textual criticism of the epistle. Schmidt publishes the Coptic text, with introduction and indices.